

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SWEL, EAGR, TBIO, MX

SUBJECT: USE OF ANTIBIOTICS IN U.S.

REFERENCE: MEXICO 1,331

PASS SCIAT

1. FDA ADVISES, AS REQUESTED BY EMBASSY FOR INSTITUTO POLITECNICO DE MEXICO, THAT ANTIBIOTIC USAGE IN U.S. MAY BE DEFINED FOR 2 POPULATIONS (A) HUMAN (B) VETERINARY. HOWEVER, DATA REGARDING CONSUMPTION NOT EASILY OBTAINABLE.

2. WITH RESPECT TO HUMAN USAGE, FDA AIRMAILING COPY OF PAPER ENTITLED ,OVERVIEW OF THE UTILIZATION OF ANTIBIOTICS, BY MARION J. FINKEL, M.D., ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR NEW DRUG EVALUATION, BUREAU OF DRUGS, PRESENTED AT THE SYMPOSIUM ON THE IMPACT OF INFECTIONS ON MEDICAL CARE IN THE U.S.: PROBLEMS AND PRIORITIES FOR FUTURE RESEARCH, NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH, BETHESDA, MARYLAND, MAY 30-31, 1978.

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3. WITH RESPECT TO VETERINARY USAGE, DATA EVEN MORE DIFFICULT TO OBTAIN. (A) IN 1960 - 29 PERCENT, 1965 - 35 PERCENT, AND 1970 - 43 PERCENT OF ALL VETERINARY ANTIBIOTICS WERE USED IN "FEED" ANIMALS (THOSE USED FOR FOOD PURPOSES.

(B) 80 PERCENT OF ALL FEED ANIMALS RECEIVE AN ANTIBIOTIC

OR OTHER DRUG SOMETIME DURING THEIR LIFE TIME.

(C) IN 1951 - 17.5 MILLION DOLLARS; 1961 - 43 MILLION DOLLARS, AND 1973 - 95 MILLION DOLLARS WERE SPENT ON ANTIBIOTICS USED IN ANIMAL FEED IN THE U.S.

(D) THE ANIMAL HEALTH INSTITUTE OF WASHINGTON HAS PROVIDED THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION: IN 1977 FEED ADDITIVES FOR VETERINARY PURPOSES WERE 807.6 MILLION DOLLARS. OF THIS SUM, ANTIBIOTICS - 151 MILLION, NUTRITIONAL ADDITIVES (UREA, VITAMINS, MINERALS, ETC,) 505 MILLION, ALL OTHER USE - 151.6 MILLION DOLLARS. WITH RESPECT TO PHARMACEUTICAL USAGE IN 1977, 106.8 MILLION DOLLARS WERE FOR ANTIBACTERIALS (ANTIBIOTICS, SULFAS, ETC.) 199.4 MILLION DOLLARS WERE FOR ALL OTHER PURPOSES. PHARMACEUTICALS IN 1977, THUS, REPRESENTED 306.2 MILLION DOLLARS. BIOLOGICALS USED WERE 91.8 MILLION DOLLARS. THUS, THE TOTAL DOLLAR USAGE FOR PHARMACEUTICALS AND BIOLOGICALS AND FOOD ADDITIVES REPRESENTED SOME 1 BILLION 205 MILLION 6000 THOUSAND DOLLARS.

4. FDA REGRETS IT IS UNABLE TO PROVIDE MORE SPECIFIC OR DETAILED INFORMATION PARTICULARLY WITH RESPECT TO VETERINARY USAGE WITHIN TIME FRAME PROVIDED. VANCE

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